[NAME OF REQUESTOR OR BETA-VERSION USER OF EPA PMF
ADDRESS OF REQUESTOR
CITY, STATE, COUNTRY OF REQUESTOR]

Dear [REQUESTOR'S NAME],

Thank you for your interest in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) Receptor Model that is being developed by the U.S. EPA. The model has been under development since late 2003. The EPA had planned for an official release of the software by the end of June 2005. However, in order to provide a strong scientific basis for the release of the model, we now believe that thorough and formal internal and external peer reviews of the software, user's manual, and associated guidance documents need to be conducted before an official version of EPA PMF is released. While these reviews will delay the official release of the software, they should also enhance the credibility and acceptance of the model and will therefore be invaluable. The reviews will cover two of EPA's receptor models, EPA PMF and EPA Unmix. This letter addresses EPA PMF, only.

The reviews will be conducted on Version 1.1 of EPA PMF. While the reviews are being conducted, EPA PMF 1.1 will be available to anyone who requests the software. Currently, the software and user's manual are complete. Guidance on building good input data sets, developing an appropriate model, evaluating the goodness of fit of the selected model, and determining if the model is being misused is scheduled to be completed early in the fall. Also, at least two hands-on training sessions on the guidance and use of the software will occur before year's end. The locations of the training most likely will be in the Midwest (such as Chicago, Illinois) and Southeast (such as Research Triangle Park, North Carolina).

Once the guidance document is completed, then the internal and external peer reviews will be conducted. Three internal and three external peer reviewers will provide formal reviews. Additional experts in receptor modeling may be asked to provide comments. A public workshop will be held late in 2005 to discuss the model, user's guide, guidance, and reviews. It is anticipated that the summary of this workshop and responses to comments will be available within two months after close of workshop. If the reviews are favorable, then EPA PMF 1.1 will be officially released shortly after the workshop is completed.

S.Eberly/sp/E205-03/919.541.4128/6-22-05/PMF Receptor_Model

If you have any questions about EPA PMF or the review process, please contact Shelly Eberly (919-541-4128 or eberly.shelly@epa.gov).

Thank you, again, for your interest in receptor modeling in general and EPA PMF in particular.

Sincerely,


Linda Sheldon, Acting Director
Human Exposure & Atmospheric Sciences Division